508-518 South Meyer Avenue
Barrio Libre (Barrio Histórico)
Tucson
Pima County
Arizona

HABS, ARIZ, 10-TUCSO, 30/33-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA



Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BARRIO LIBRE (Barrio Histórico)

508-518 SOUTH MEYER AVENUE

HABS No. AZ-73-33

Location:

508-518 S. Meyer Ave., Tucson, Pima County, Arizona.

USGS Tucson Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 12.502680 .3563970

Present Owner:

Carlos G. Robles 38 N. Church Ave.. Tucson, Arizona 85701

Present Occupants:

#508, Anthony Pesquiera #512 Josefine Jackson

#516 Vacant

Present Use:

Residential

Significance:

This block of three apartments adjoins another row of apartments to form a continuous sequence of flush-fronted structures to the corner of South Meyer Avenue and West Kennedy Street. The Early Sonoran Transitional structure displays an Anglo influence through its gabled roof. The sequence of long blocks of buildings along this side of South Meyer Avenue contributes to the planar qualities

of the streetscape.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION PART I.

- Α. Physical History:
 - Date of erection: pre-1880 probably.
 - 2. Architect: None known.
 - 3. Original and subsequent owners: See chain of title below.

Block 242, Lot 20.

- Deed, June 8, 1882, recorded in Volume 11, page 386. 1882 William C. Davis to Reyes Romero.
- Deed, October 24, 1887, recorded in Volume 15, page 181. 1887 Reyes and Dolores C. de Romero to María C. de Brena.
- 1904 Deed, March 12, 1904, recorded in Volume 35, page 365. Rosario and María C. de Brena to James Ewing.

- 1910 Deed, October 8, 1910, recorded in Volume 50, page 33.

 James and Mary Francis Ewing to Silvestre E. Gould.
- 1920 Deed, January 15, 1920, recorded in Volume 43, page 590. Silvestre E. Gould to Bernabe Robles.
- 1947 Deed, December 26, 1947, recorded in Volume 40, page 489. Estate of Bernabe Robles to Joaquina S. Robles.
- 1948 Deed, July 28, 1948, recorded in Volume 99, page 27. Joaquina S. Robles to Bérnabe S. Robles et al.
- 1954 Deed, December 31, 1954, recorded in Volume 789, page 383. Bernabe S. Robles et al to Carlos G. Robles.
- 1972 Deed, May 24, 1972, recorded in Volume 4258, page 286. Robles to Robles.
- 1972 Deed, May 24, 1972, recorded in Volume 4258, page 283. Robles to Robles.
- 4. Builder: Reyes Romero
- 5. Alterations and additions: There were no significant modifications made to this structure between 1909 and 1948.
- B. Historical Persons and Events Connected with this Structure:

The name of Reyes Romero is connected with this property both through ownership records and city directories. Reyes Romero, a teamster, and his brother (or son), Jesus Romero, listed as a farmer, probably also built the stables and adobe hay barn that extended behind the house along the north and west property lines. The Romeros remained on this property until the early 1900s. In 1920 the property passed into Robles' hands and a succession of tenants have moved in and out of the apartments until the present time. One of the dwellings was used as "La Costa del Sol" bakery, run by Jose Moreno during the late 1920s, and another was used as a barbershop during the early 1920s. Many of the tenants who lived in these apartments for a short time are associated with residences or families elsewhere on S. Convent and S. Meyer avenues —-Feliciano Fimbres (509 S. Meyer), Hilario Gallego (571 S. Meyer), Miguel Bustamante, Juan Vindiola, Remigia Bojórquez, and Ramón Camacho.

PART 11. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION (See Significance, above, and Barrio Libre (Barrio Historico) (HABS No. AZ-73) for site plan and historical background essay.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, 1909, 1914, 1919, 1948.

Tract Books, Pioneer National Title Insurance Company (Microfilm, Recorder's records).

Tucson City Directories, 1897-1979.

Prepared hy: Ann E. Huston

Project Historian, Maureen L. Gerhold

Assistant Project Historian,

Historic American Buildings Survey

September 1980

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service's National Architectural and Engineering Record (NAER) in cooperation with the Tucson Barrio Association, Inc. Funds for the project were provided by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office and the Arizona State Office of Economic Planning and Development. Under the direction of Robert Kapsch, Chief of NAER, John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect, the project was completed during the summer of 1980 at the HABS field office in Tucson, Arizona, hy Robert C. Giehner, Project Supervisor (Professor of Architecture, University of Arizona); William Joseph Graham, Project Foreman (University of Maryland); Ann E. Huston, Project Historian (California State University, Sacramento); Maureen L. Gerhold, Assistant Historian (Pennsylvania State University); Student Architects Scott Marshall Dolph (University of Arizona); Carol Jean Lemon (Washington State University); and Harrison Adam Sutphin (Virginia Tech); and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) Summer Youth Employment Program Interns: Maria Arriola (Tucson High School); Ernest Cota; Lupita Lopez (Tucson High School); and Anna Trinidad. Photographic records were made for HABS by David J. Kaminsky, Photographer, Roswell, New Mexico. Editing and final preparation of the documentation was carried out in 1981 in the HABS Washington Office by William Joseph Graham. Architect, and Lucy Pope Wheeler, Writer/Editor, of the HABS professional staff.

ADDENDUM TO
508-518 SOUTH MEYER AVENUE (APARTMENTS)
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